

Greetings from Mamou, Guinea, my Friends in Christ!

It has been just over a year now since I began to work full-time developing a Community Healthcare Program (CHP) here in Guinea to reach the poorest in villages without access to care as a part of a system of medical outreach to all. This month of November we have many things to be thankful for here in the CHP as you celebrate Thanksgiving there. We've been moving forward in so many ways and have had good progress despite the many challenges in this developing nation! We began our efforts with a needs assessment survey in the villages around Mamou and try to share that data via the internet (Guinea is the 2nd worst internet access country in Africa). There are medical access needs on all levels, potable water, medical education/ prevention and other needs we are identifying. We are initiating screening and nutritional treatment for malnourished kids, school kids' safety & health programs and other preventative and curative initiatives.

I thank God and you for all of your prayers, encouragement, and financial support. Recently we had our first friend/fundraiser in Houston, Texas. Great fun was had by attendees and many CMLCers plus others learned about our CHP in wonderful posters depicting the projects, outreach and people. This event focused on girls, women and children for support. We have a logo created by former CMLCer Shelley Herbrich saying WAVE CHP (West African Village Education & Community Health Program). Check out the logo and story on page two about interns in our Days for Girls feminine hygiene program.

Currently I have one assistant, Christian nurse midwife Ruth, and am interviewing others to grow our team. Please pray that God provides qualified Christian candidates to work with us. Guinea is predominantly Muslim and so this is another challenge! Stateside I am blessed to have assembled a committee of my supervisor and Lutheran/ Christian friends with medical, outreach and financial training who support both the medical and spiritual work we are doing to bring medical care and the Gospel to those we serve. We communicate in conference calls a few times a month, and together with your help and God's grace we are building this new ministry from the ground up.



Last week we did a Helping Babies Breathe (HBB) training for TBAs (traditional birth attendants) from 3 villages. As we resuscitated our plastic baby (see left photo above), I thought of the many home deliveries these TBAs assist in and pray those newborns might breathe or be helped to breathe in the first precious minute of life to live happy, healthy and productive lives. See our training class (right photo above) from the village. You too can help babies breathe with your prayers as we raise support to provide training/training kits for midwives! See how we all can help babies breathe together!

I am thankful for all those who support me by prayer and financially so this health ministry in Guinea can go forward to reach the poorest in villages without access to care as a part of a system of outreach to all medically. Those who have the means to come to CEH and now those who don't can get medical education, screening, and primary care in the villages where they live as an extension of care for all throughout the villages in the Mamou, Guinea region. How can you support? Firstly, pray! Secondly, my personal ministry support (by mail to Compassion Evangelical Hospital, P.O. box 870, Southfield, MI 48037; memo line: kms100, or go to CEHGuinea.org, donate to Dr. Kristen Schmaltz). Thirdly, the CHP program outreach to villages we are starting up and doing fundraising (soon grant writing) for. Thank you so much for your prayers and support!!

In Christ, Dr. Kristen Schmaltz kmsguinea@gmail.com



AFRICAN COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM



DAYS FOR GIRLS
Guinea, West Africa OCTOBER 2018

This summer we had a young lady intern, 15-year-old Seny, in our DfG (Days for Girls) program who helped us reach out to various church groups and individuals telling our target audience about her life and experiences as a young developing woman trying to get an education and balancing traditional expectations in family life. She is hoping to study this year despite strikes in schools that have been going on and off for over a year. She had the opportunity to mentor Fifi in this project.



Often women are married early – aged 13, so in addition to lack of schooling, lack of feminine hygiene products at puberty and shame with that, young ladies have a hard time finding academic and career opportunities. There is a group of trade school young women that are receiving “life skills” training in this group that we gave sustainable feminine hygiene kits to in our DfG outreach so they may have opportunities and support in daily life. We are thankful to Seny and Fifi for participating in our program and encourage others this year during private school studying (since Oct 6th) to join us in this effort!!



NEW Outreach Effort for African GIRLS and WOMEN